



DoD Voluntary Education

a Broad Overview

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Department of Defense

Personnel and Readiness

Initiated by Congress

- Congressionally-driven program
 - Active duty version of the GI Bill
 - Completion of degrees off-duty
 - Non-job oriented, academic programs
 - Not an extension of already well-funded training programs
 - Degree areas selected by the Servicemember
- Intent
 - Prepare an educated citizen “soldier”
 - Contribute to the Service
 - Contribute to Society upon separation

Multi-faceted Offerings

- An impressive product
 - Academic & career advisement
 - Academic and job focus
 - Testing programs
 - Aptitude and interest inventories
 - CLEP, ACT, certification exams
 - On-site coursework & degrees
 - Basic Skills courses/certification programs
 - High School Completion/GED
 - Undergraduate coursework/degrees
 - Graduate coursework/degrees

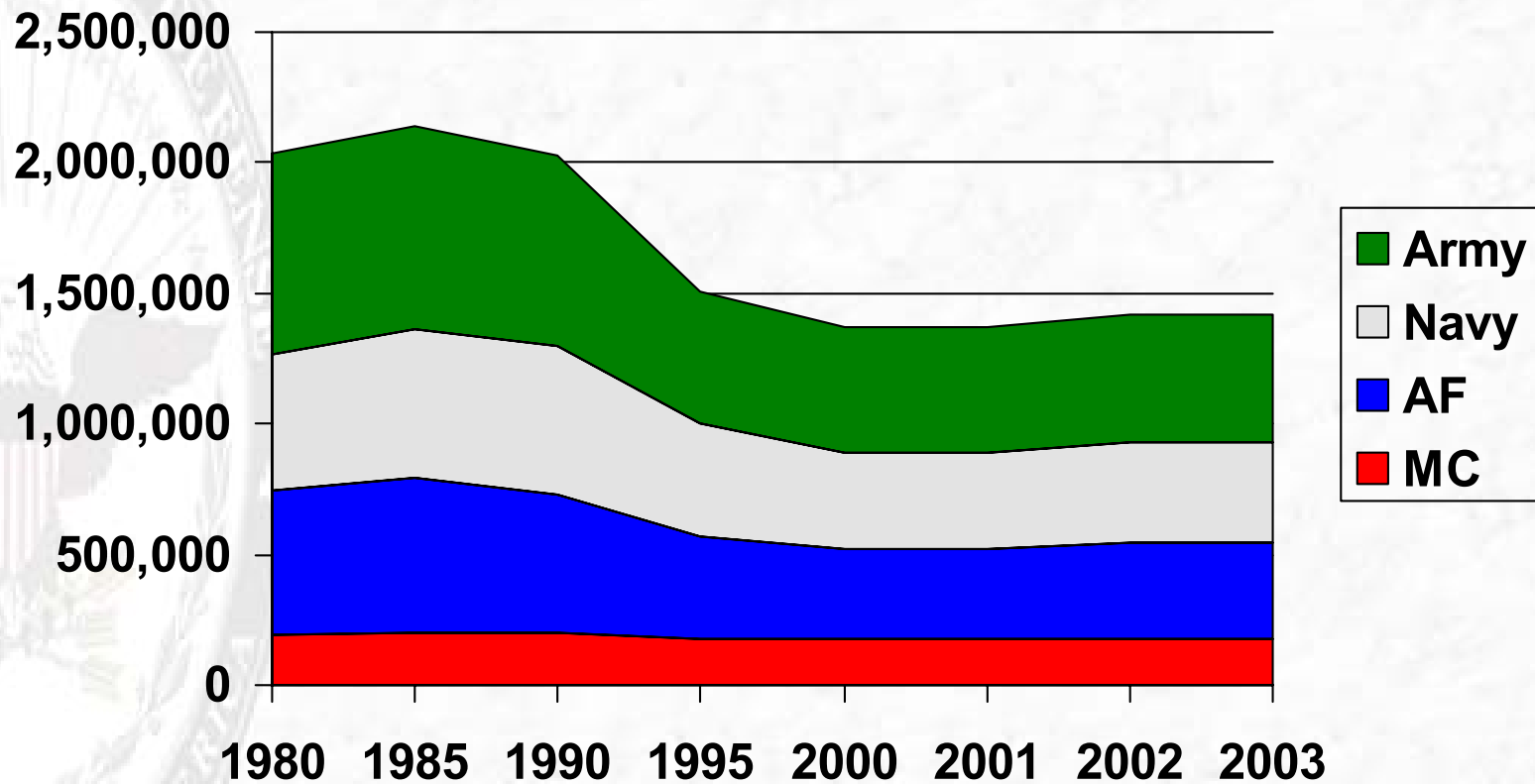
Available World-wide

- Far beyond the school house
 - Now on-base, on-ship and on-line
- Began offering tuition support
 - The Army in 1950s, then other Services
 - Professional centers and staffing in 1972
 - 114 Army sites
 - 85 Air Force sites
 - 62 Navy sites
 - 26 Coast Guard sites
 - 18 Marine Corps sites

Professional Support

- Now 305 centers world-wide
 - Active duty, Reserves & National Guard
 - CONUS and OCONUS
 - Via MOUs and Contracts
- Contingency Areas as well
 - Bosnia, Saudi Arabia, Afghanistan
- Professional Staff of approx 1700
 - Education professionals
 - Military personnel
 - In-house contract support

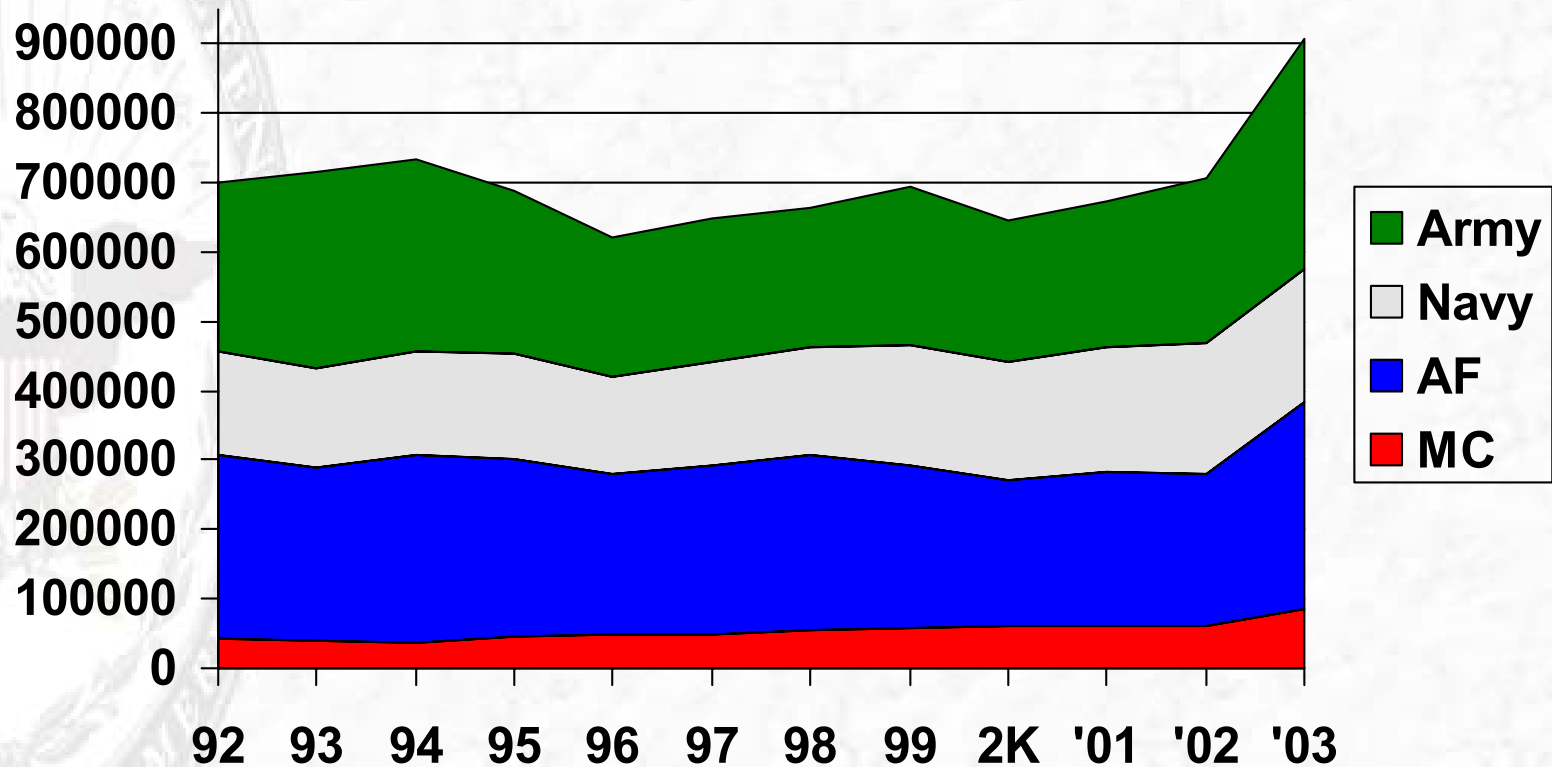
FY03 Active Duty Military Strength



*Source: FY2003 Voluntary Education Report

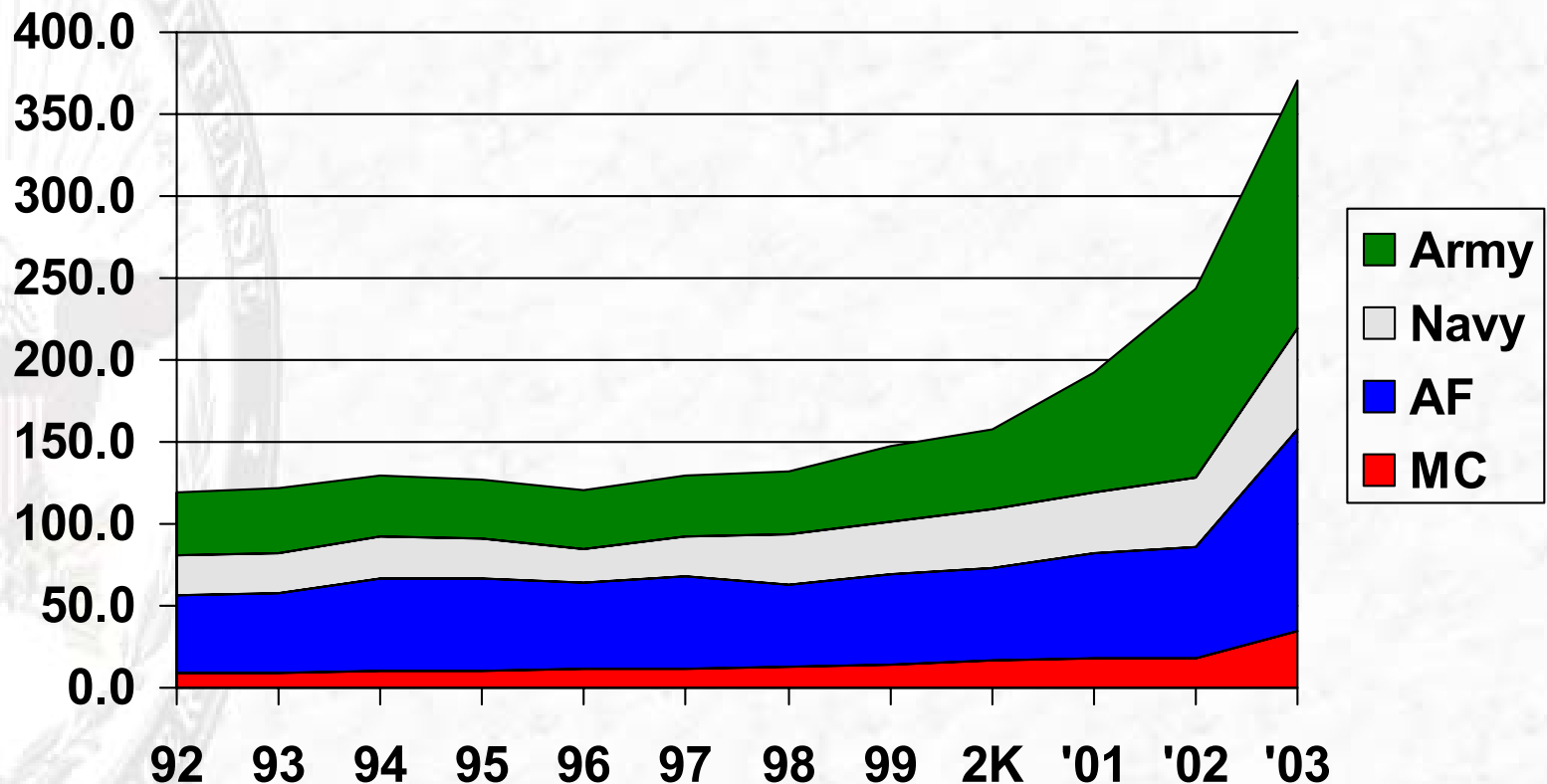
FY03 Course Enrollments

84 percent completion rate



*Source: FY2003 Voluntary Education Report

FY03 Military Tuition Assistance

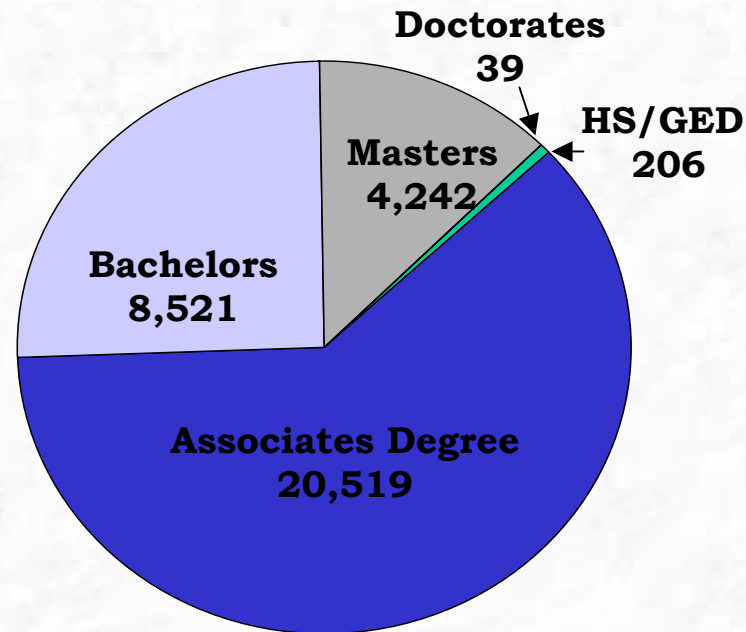


Source: FY2003 Voluntary Education Report

Note: does not include NCPACE tuition costs; does include eArmyU tuition

Active Duty

Diplomas/Degrees Awarded FY03



**33,527 Degrees/Diplomas
Earned (FY 03)**

Impressive Results

- Approx 424,000 participants
- Over 908,000 enrollments
- Over 193,000 exams annually
- 33,527 diplomas/degrees
- \$377.6M tuition assistance
- The bottom line:
 - a better-educated citizen-soldier

Tuition Assistance Trends

- **Current Tuition Assistance Policy**
 - \$250.00 per semester credit cap
 - Annual ceiling of \$4500.00
 - Up from \$187.50 and \$3500
- **Army-driven 2000 Legislation**
 - 100% coverage permitted
 - High cost drives incremental funding
 - Eventually more fees may be covered
- **Annual re-analysis**

Reasons for Increased TA costs

- 1/3 higher cost at start up
- 100% tuition assistance policy
- Double digit tuition inflation in higher ed
- Higher-cost DL courses
- Troops taking more coursework

The Benefits

- Improves recruitment, readiness and retention
- Best educated, best informed, most effective fighting force in the world
- Become leaders and role models
- Graduates give back to their military and civilian communities
- Many first-generation college graduates
 - Long term socio-economic impact
 - Also multi-generational impact
- Preparing the future leaders of our country today

Trends & Challenges

- Outsourcing & BRAC
- Making MIVER less onerous
- Increased emphasis on readiness
- Growing enrollments at a distance
- DE quality review process
- Accreditation Issues
- Portals and eCounseling
- Centralize some backroom opns
- Planning for World Wide '06
- Analyze scope of liaison efforts

Voluntary Higher Education

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